IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Osamu NISHIMURA et al.

Attn: BOX PCT

Serial No. 09/806,871

Docket No. 2001 0291A

Filed April 5, 2001

METHOD FOR REMOVING N-TERMINAL METHIONINE [Corresponding to PCT/JP99/05456

Filed October 4, 1999]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, immediately after the title, please insert:

This application is a 371 of PCT/JP99/05456 filed October 4, 1999.

REMARKS

The present application has been revised to reflect the 371 status.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

PRE ANGO